

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BUENOS 06119 191340Z  
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 DHA-02 MCT-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00  
INRE-00 /071 W  
-----100411 191345Z /45

O 191315Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1828  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE  
AMCON RIO DE JANIERO IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL BUENOS AIRES 6119

RIO FOR ASST SEC TODMAN FROM CHARGE

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: SHUMXF AR, US  
SUBJECT: ARGENTINIAN GOVERNMENT TO PROTEST ACTION  
OF AMERICAN EXPERT

REF: GENEVA 7065

1. DURING CODEL YATRON WORKING SESSION WITH ENTIRE TOP LEVEL OF FONOFF THIS MORNING, MINISTER JUAN CARLOS ARLIA, WITH EXPRESS APPROVAL OF FONMIN, MADE HEATED COMPLAINT THAT US EXPERT MEMBER OF SUBCOMMISSION WAS REGULARLY CONSULTING WITH MATTAROLO. (MATTAROLO IS A LEADING REPRESENTATIVE OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION WHICH HAS ALMOST BEEN ELIMINATED WITHIN ARGENTINA. THIS ORGANIZATION, THE ERP, HAS BEEN TOTALLY DEDICATED TO TERRORISM AS A DEVICE FOR DESTROYING THE PRESENT AND FORMER ARGENTINE GOVERNMENTS.)

2. IT WAS CLEAR FROM THE DISCUSSION THAT THE FONMIN WAS CONVINCED THAT THE US EXPERT MEMBER HAD BEEN CONFIDENTIAL

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SEEING MATTAROLO OVER AN EXTENDED PERIOD. HE FURTHER INDICATED HE WAS UNWILLING TO ACCEPT THE POSITION THAT THE US EXPERT WAS ACTING IN HIS PERSONAL CAPACITY BECAUSE HE IS AN AMERICAN AMBASSADOR AND AS SUCH CAN NOT PROPERLY DIVORCE HIS ACTIONS FROM HIS OFFICIAL STATUS.

3. GOA MAY NOW HAVE FELT THAT IT HAS REGISTERED ITS PROTEST IN A SUITABLE FORUM AND NOT PROCEED MORE FORMALLY. NEVERTHELESS, THIS INCIDENT HAS LEFT THE FONOFF AT LEAST DEEPLY PUZZLED, AND SOMEWHAT SUSPICIOUS ABOUT OUR MOTIVES. THIS APPEARS TO THEM, CORRECTLY OR NOT, AS A BLATANT CASE OF OFFICIAL US CONSULTATION WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF A TERRORIST GROUP SUCH AS ONE THAT ALMOST SUCCEEDED IN ASSASSINATING THEIR PREVIOUS FONMIN. GIVEN THE DEPTH OF FEELING ABOUT THIS ISSUE, I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO MAKE SOME FURTHER EFFORTS TO REASSURE THE ARGENTINES.

4. ADDENDUM: AFTER THIS CABLE WAS DRAFTED GENEVA 7095 WAS RECEIVED. EMBASSY OFFICER REACHED ARLIA AT MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS LATE EVENING 8/18 AND BRIEFED HIM ON AMBASSADOR CARTER'S MESSAGE. ARLIA WAS GRUDGING IN ACCEPTANCE AND PROSPECTS OF OFFICIAL COMPLAINT HAVE RECEDED. ARLIA HAS TOLD US HE WILL LEAVE FOR GENEVA SATURDAY AUGUST 20 IN CONNECTION WITH UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION AND SUB-COMMISSION. WE SEE NO NEED TO HUMOR ARGENTINES IN REGRETTING AN INCIDENT WHICH NEVER TOOK PLACE, BUT WE UNDERSTAND THEIR SENSITIVITIES REGARDING ANY CONTACTS WITH SUBVERSIVES. WE HOPE OIL CAN BE POURED ON THESE TROUBLED WATERS.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS, CONSULTANTS, TERRORISTS  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 GENEVA 7065  
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**TAGS:** SHUM, PINS, AR, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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